



NIHR's Statement on the International Day of Peace

Manama-21September 2013

was established in 1981 by resolution 36/67 of the United Nations General Assembly to coincide with its opening session, which was held annually on the third Tuesday of September. The first Peace Day was observed in September 1982. In 2001, the General Assembly by unanimous vote adopted resolution 55/282, which established 21 September as an annual day of non-violence and cease-fire. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. This year's IDP will focus on "Education for Peace." The UN will review the role that can be played by education in boosting citizenship. Each year on this day, the United Nations invites all nations and peoples to honour a cessation of hostilities and to commemorate the day through activities that promote peace.

As UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, said in his 100-day countdown message: "It is not enough to teach children how to read, write and count. Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in which we live, and help people forge more just, inclusive and peaceful societies." On this occasion, NIHR affirmed the importance of the IDP because of the values and ideals it promotes amid the changes taking place in the world and which require collective local, regional and global efforts to establish democracy, achieve civil peace, safeguard security and stability within nations, confirm national cohesion, and renounce differences.

NIHR asserted that if the factors affecting global peace and security are diverse, then the ways to reach peace should also be so, including policies of disarmament and non-proliferation of mass destruction weapons, in addition to consolidating peaceful resolution of international conflicts, enhancing cooperation between countries and paying more attention to science and knowledge in order to build up a world in which peace and security prevail. It



emphasizes that real peace should be based on justice, equality, rights and respect of the human rights and dignity of persons .

Further, NIHR called upon all social segments in Bahrain to join ranks and cooperate in order to emphasize respect of human rights and peace values, and direct all efforts towards development, rejection of sedition and extremism, and respect for the rule of the law. NIHR also values the efforts of the esteemed Government of Bahrain and civil society organizations to spread awareness of issues related to peace, democracy and human rights among the citizens and residents.